

## HARRIET HUBBARD AYER

How to Avoid Bad Breaks  
When in the Best Society.

## The Announcement.

Dear Mrs. Ayer:  
A friend of mine wrote me informing me of the marriage of her daughter. The letter also said her daughter would be at home at a certain date. Shall I acknowledge receipt of this letter in a graceful manner? "CONSTANT."

Y. way you suggest and call upon the bride on her "at home" day.

## Some Minor Points Settled.

Dear Mrs. Ayer:  
It is proposed for a gentleman to give a lady her contribution to put in a plate in church? Should a gentleman precede a lady in getting out of an elevated train or a trolley, or in going down a theatre aisle? Should a lady take a gentleman's arm, or should the gentleman take the lady's arm in walking on the street?

It is proper for a gentleman to offer a lady a small coin to put in the contribution plate in case she does not happen to have any change, or if in trying to find a piece of money she experiences difficulties, as often is the case. Women with gloves on in a church are frequently embarrassed trying to locate a small coin in chatelaine or purse and get it ready before the plate is passed. In such circumstances a gentleman may, with entire propriety, come to her rescue, but in ordinary cases a man is not supposed to pay a woman's little expenses of this kind and it is not good form for him to insist upon so doing.

A gentleman precedes a lady in getting off the train or trolley in order to make way for her and assist her in getting off.

A lady takes a gentleman's arm. It is never correct for a man to take a woman's arm and it is not good form for a lady, unless she happens to be old or very feeble, to take a gentleman's arm in the daytime.

## Get a Friend to Help.

Dear Mrs. Ayer:  
Would you please tell me the best way to become acquainted with a girl? I know a girl by sight, but I don't know how to speak to her. J. C. N.

Y. You must find some respectful way of making the girl's acquaintance. The best plan is to get one of her friends to properly introduce you. If you are a suitable companion for her and have any enterprise at all you will find a way of making the young lady's acquaintance.

## When Is a Girl of Age?

Dear Mrs. Ayer:  
At what age is a girl in this country "of age"? At eighteen or twenty-one?

THE EVENING WORLD'S  
LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

## Another Gas Complaint.

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
The writer has his particular grievance to relate, and that is, the poor gas which we now have. I have written to our gas company about the gas in my flat, but to no avail. I would like to know whether other subscribers to your valued paper have had the same trouble. I cannot get enough light to read the papers. My gas bills are large, and I don't get any value for the money. The gas seems to me to have deteriorated since they lowered the price.

## EAST NINETY-SIXTH STREET.

## Says Girls Are Fickle.

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Indeed the girls of the present century are very foolish and queer in many respects. Why does not a girl love a man as she should? Why, she will one day kiss and hug and promise to love a man for the rest of her life, and on the day following she will act in the same way to another man? Is that affection? If it is, it must be called "twentieth-century affection." Many a man's heart is broken by just this sort of a girl. I do not say anything against a girl speaking in a friendly, pleasant manner with a number of men, but she must not carry this to extremes. I wonder we have so many divorce cases, now, before the courts! The girl went so far as to marry the man whom she could never truly love. No doubt she married him for his money, and not for his own dear self. Would that the thoughtless American woman could be convinced that marriage without love is not union.

## LOUIS A. KIRKIN.

## The Overcrowded "L."

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Our "L." trains are altogether too crowded, especially during the rush hours in the morning. It is simply frightful. I think it a latter-day miracle that accidents do not occur much oftener than they do. However, the "L." boards have no right to put the lives of the passengers in condition to require miracles, and the best remedy is to increase the number of cars.

## THEY MET.

IT WAS born in the breath of a first sweet, flutter, the stir.  
The call and answer, the blush that glows.  
The faltering, slow demur.  
It passed as it came, though the charm was long.  
Wooded it to listen and stay.  
But the song and the rose to the hour belong.  
As the morrow follows the day.  
Yet its reign was planned against all defense.  
For how should the soul withstand  
The life, the grace, the awakening sense,  
That came in the touch of a hand? —Pall Mall Gazette.

## I do not mean legally.

## A CONSTANT READER.

If you do not mean legally, I do not understand just what your query refers to.

A girl is considered of age in New York State at eighteen. Coming of age is a legal status and the term has no other significance to my knowledge.

## No News from This Young Man.

Dear Mrs. Ayer:  
I have been going out with a gentleman about four months. When last we met he was not feeling well and seemed very depressed. He always wrote, letting me know when he would call. I have not heard from him for a few weeks. Would you kindly advise me whether you think it proper for me to write, inquiring if he is ill, or do you think he would have written, even though ill, if he cared to continue our acquaintance? F. G. L.

It is possible I think you should ascertain without writing to the young man concerning his health. If he is ill you might write him. If, however, he has taken this very rude method of breaking off the acquaintance you should ignore him completely.

## Exceptions to the Rule.

Dear Mrs. Ayer:  
It is proper for a young lady to allow a gentleman to call to see her at her home, having made his acquaintance through business transactions? G. B.

GENERALLY speaking, it is better for a girl to keep her business and social life separate. There are, of course, exceptions, and very pleasant friendships are sometimes formed through business acquaintanceship. In this case it all depends upon the young man.

If he is a proper person to be received in the young girl's home there is no reason why he should not become a personal friend, and be permitted to call upon the young lady at her home.

## Color of Bridesmaid's Gown.

Dear Mrs. Ayer:  
I would like to know whether it is proper for a bridesmaid to wear white if the bride wears a colored dress, and also if it is right for a young man who keeps company with a girl to go to places of amusement without her?

## EXPERIENCE.

If the bride does not wear white it would be in better taste for the bridesmaid to wear colors too.

No, I do not think a young man who is paying his addresses to a young girl should go to places of amusement without her. I should say such a young man would make a very selfish and unattractive husband.

## BAMPTON LEDERRECHTER.

## Crossed Line First in Two Races.

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Will you kindly let me know if the Columbia did or did not win two of the three races on Atlantic City, time, or did she cross the finish line first?

## MARY E. MACFARLANE.

## To Avoid Accidents.

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
It is my opinion that the car companies would save at least 75 per cent. damage money if they would keep only experienced men and pay them better wages and treat them as human beings and promote them for their efficiency. The public are at fault in many cases, but the majority are prudent and would be avoided by experienced men, while a new man would not know how to avoid accidents.

## A VICTIM.

## For a Better Ball Team.

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Seeing that the American League is thinking of placing a team in New York, I would suggest in this event that the Brooklyn and New York clubs consolidate, and present a club that would be equal to the one placed in this city by the opposition. The make-up of the team should be as follows: Catchers, Warner, Farrell, McGuire and Howerman; pitchers, Mathewson, Taylor, Kilson, DeWalt, Hughes, Kelly; first base, Daly; 2d base, Davis; 3d, Dahlen.

## The "Meat" Discussion.

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
I can see no ground for any perplexity in Genesis 1, 29, for it does not state that the herb and the tree are given to man only for food purposes. There is nothing in the wording of the verse implying that it is contrary to Divine wish to use "vegetable matter" for purposes other than food.

## HILL STUDENT.

## SAYINGS OF YOUNG FOLKS.

WILLIE (aged five): Papa, didn't you tell me that if I took care of my pennies my dollars would take care of themselves?  
Papa—Yes, my son.  
Willie—Then why didn't your dollars take care of themselves the other day when you lost your pocketbook?  
Little Fred visited an old lady recently, who, in commenting upon his likeness to his father, said: "Will, you are a full-blooded Smith and no mistake."  
"Mamma, what do you think?" exclaimed Fred on his return home.  
"Mrs. Wheeler called me a bloody Smith!"  
May, aged three, was watching her mother knead some dough, which squeaked as the air bubbles were pressed out.  
"Mamma," queried the little observer, "shall I hit your bread with the poker?"  
"What for, dear?" asked her mother.  
"Cause," replied May, "I hear a mouse squealing in it!"  
Little Preston's mother, who was very fond of singing "God Save the Queen," was horrified one day to hear the little fellow shouting: "God save the milk! God save the milk!" and took him to task about it.  
"Well, mamma," said Preston, "you are always singing 'God Save the Queen,' and if He doesn't save the milk first there won't be any cream."  
—Louisville Times.

## REVENGE.



Fritz—Now, Sterling, you pour the ink all over grandpa's hands while I tickle his head with a straw. I don't think he'll scold us again for having dirty faces.

## IGNORANT.

Willie—Pa, who was Shyluck?

The Father—Goodness, boy! You attend church and Sunday-school every week and don't know who Shyluck was? You ought to be ashamed of yourself.—Tit-Bits.

## THEY KNEW.

Dashaway—Did you tell the Briderlys that I was going to call there last night?

Cleverton—Yes. How did you know?

Dashaway—The wedding present I gave them was in the front parlor.—Town and Country.

## BOHEMIAN.

What is a bohemian?" said the young man who wants to study human nature.

"A bohemian," answered the cold-blooded friend, "is a person who always needs two or three extra endorsements on his note when he wants to borrow money."—Washington Star.

## GRANDPA (waking up)—I broke up that mass-meeting of flies on my head anyhow. Wonder how many I killed?

## WIDES.

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## KATE CAREW ABROAD.

## KINGS ARE HER CONQUESTS.

Kate Carew.

For a young woman who is alleged to have captured the admiration of His Majesty the Kxgg of Exxlxxd, Llane de Pougy does not impress the casual onlooker as being particularly interesting. She is part of the life of Paris, however, and hence it is important to know that when she drives up to a shop in the Rue de la Paix she takes care that she is observed by everybody within range before thrusting forth a gaudily slipped foot to descend.

## FORCE OF HABIT.

Miss Wyze—Just look at that man! I know he's a beer-drinker. He actually thinks he's blowing froth off a tumbler of water! Mr. Fly—Oh, no! That's Black of Pittsburgh, and he's used to blowing the cinders off before drinking anything. That's all.

## WOMEN CONFECTIONERS.

WOMEN have complete control of a confectioner's establishment in London. It has become so great a success that its kitchen of necessity has been partially converted into a school where women anxious to learn are taught the confectioner's art. At the present time, many women of good education are busy with dainty confections. Some of the pupils are ambitious to become managers of similar establishments of their own.

## NEW LIGHT ON SERVANT QUESTION.

DOWN in country towns, and, in fact, everywhere in Sweden except in Stockholm and one or two other of the larger cities, domestic servants are engaged under contracts for a year, writes W. E. Curran in the Chicago Record-Herald. On the 24th of April and the 24th of October contracts are always made and service always terminates on one of these days. Girls who come from the country seek employment as servants gather in the market place on the morning of those days, where an official from the Police Department is present to look after them.

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## UNDERWEAVES AND 7-8 YARD OF VELVET TO TRIM AS ILLUSTRATED.

The pattern (No. 3,354, sizes 32 to 42 bust) will be sent for 10 cents.

Send money to "Cashier, The World, Pulitzer Building, New York City."

## FOR HOME DRESSMAKERS.

The Evening World's Daily Fashion Hint.

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